

ABSTRACTMETHODS AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING SIGNALLING GATEWAYS

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A method is described for operating a signalling gateway comprising determining information enabling an application server to identify a signalling gateway process to which to direct a message destined for a particular point code and making said information available to the application server. In preferred embodiments, the information takes the form of a routing table  
10 that serves to distribute signalling gateway process identifiers over possible SLS values by, for instance, mapping process instance identifiers to possible SLS values for messages sent by the application server. By allowing the application server processes the possibility to determine to which signalling gateway process each message should be directed, retransmission of messages within the signalling gateway can be avoided.